

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-37 are pending in the application. Claims 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 25-34, 36 and 37 are rejected. Claims 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20 and 25-34 have been amended and claims 1-12, 15, 18, 21-24 and 35-37 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 38, 39, 40 and 41 have been newly added. No new matter has been added.

On page 3, the Official Action rejects claims 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 25-34, 36 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakatsuyama (U.S. 2002/0143550) in view of Mitchell (U.S. 6,961,700). It is respectfully submitted, however, that the claims are patentable over the art of record for at least the reasons set forth below.

Applicants' invention, as recited by claim 13, includes features which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

a receiving step of receiving ... a scene code indicating a scene of the broadcast contents ... step of specifying ... the language model corresponding to the received scene code when the scene code is received ...

Claim 13 relates to a scene code that identifies a particular type of broadcast genre such as drama, outdoors, comedy, ... etc. This scene code corresponds to a particular language model that is specific to a particular scene. Thus, upon receiving the scene code, the correct language model may be specified. Support for these features can be at least found in paragraphs 308, 315, 316, 319, 324, 354 and 419 of Applicants' published application (US 2006/0259299). No new matter has been added.

Nakatsuyama discloses a system for providing a voice recognition system for Internet shopping. Thus, the Examiner is interpreting paragraphs 23, 24, 29, 30, 32, 33, 39 and 40 of Nakatsuyama to suggest a language model. In similar art, Mitchell suggests a speech recognition system which is able to retrieve a word that is most likely to have been uttered by a user. Specifically, this feature suggested in Col. 7, lines 4-15 of Mitchell (*"each of the words recognized ... for each word, a list of alternative words and their scores is given ... the likelihood that the word is correct ... the list of alternative words is ordered such that the most likely word appears first"*). Thus, if a user utters a specific word which is not correctly recognized by the system, then alternative words are listed which are likely to have been the word that was uttered.

Neither Nakatsuyama, Mitchell, nor their combination, however, suggest specifying a language model based on a received scene code. Specifically, both Nakatsuyama and Mitchell suggest a single language model and are not concerned with the scene being broadcast.

Applicants' claim 13 is different than the art of record, because of a scene code which is received. Specifically, the scene code is utilized to specify a specific language model ("*a receiving step of receiving ... a scene code indicating a scene of the broadcast contents ... step of specifying ... the language model corresponding to the received scene code when the scene code is received ...*"). As described in Applicants' embodiment 3, a plurality of language models may be stored. Specifically, these language models may be tailored to specific genres of the broadcast (specific scenes). Thus, the system is able to transmit a scene code which is then received by the receiver and utilized to select between the various language models (the system is able to select a language model corresponding to the scene code). These features are at least supported in paragraphs 308, 315, 316, 319, 354 and 419 ("*recognition vocabulary generating section 371 stores, in advance, domain specific Ngram syntax information such as drama, outdoors and autumn ... generating section 371 is a means of selecting the Ngram syntax information of a domain corresponding to a scene code transmitted from the broadcast receiving station 313 ... an example of a scene code is a code specifying a domain, such as drama, outdoors and autumn ... stores Ngram syntax information for each domain. Thus, when a scene code is specified, the Ngram syntax information of a domain corresponding to the specified scene code is specified.*").

For example, various genres such as drama and comedy may have different language models which are tailored to the specific genre (certain words may be more widely used in specific genres). Thus, it is beneficial to specify a language model based on a particular scene code. Thus, if the scene code received specifies a comedy, then the language model corresponding to the comedy will be utilized.

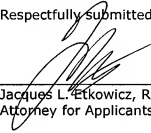
Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, claim 13 is patentable over the art of record.

Claims 16, 19, 25, 40 and 41, although not identical, include similar features to claim 13. Thus, claims 16, 19, 25, 40 and 41 are also patentable over the art of record for at least the reasons set forth above.

Dependent claims 14, 17, 20, 26-34, 38 and 39 include all of the features of the claims from which they depend. Thus, these claims are also patentable over the art of record for at least the reasons set forth above.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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